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**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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I believe history will look back on this age in America as the one that did the most damage by abandoning the ideals that made this country so great. This country was founded on the idea that we, as individuals, can achieve what we set out to achieve. We have only the right to try, not to succeed. The clam sits at the bottom of the ocean waiting for food to happen by as it filters the water waiting for nutrition, never experiencing anything other than it's simple existence. The eagle, on the other hand, flies up to a hundred miles searching for food, soaring over the landscape and seeing an ever-changing world. The Eagle, not the clam is the symbol of America. What will be our symbol tomorrow? We are surrounded by instances of individuals and corporations pointing fingers at the success of their competitors and whining about how they should be in that seat. How, if everything were more fair, they would be the leaders. It strikes me as more than a little hypocritical for the world's largest communications company (that absolutely refuses to open such a critical tool to today's communication as instant messaging to free competition) to be pointing at Microsoft and whining that they're (recently) acquired Netscape would have been more successful if Microsoft didn't embed IE into windows. Come on, AOL-TW !! You yourselves opted for the superior performance and features of IE over Netscape for your own AOL browsers not too long ago!!!!!!!

Look at the real market facts.. Netscape did fine against IE, even though IE was embedded in windows, Netscape was the preferred browser by most, and was rated as a better product in the media for several versions. Then, starting with version 4.0, IE started to offer more competition as it improved it's performance and feature set. Eventually the media started touting IE as the winner in the "Browser Wars". It was then, and only then, that Netscape started losing market share. Not because IE was embedded into windows (it always had been), but because it became a better product. Simple, huh?

As I said we will be looked upon as the age that destroyed competition by punishing those that succeed. Making the right judgment in the Microsoft case will not change this, but at least it will not contribute to it.

Who has really been pushing for judgments against Microsoft? The consumers? No.

No, I mean the ones REALLY behind all of this. Our government has been wielded like a puppet by those who stand to gain financially. It is so, blatantly obvious to almost everyone I talk to what is really going on. It is embarrassing to watch our own government be played like this.

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